

Remarks

Claims 1-3, 6 and 7 remain pending and stand rejected. Claims 4, 5, and 8-18 have been canceled.

Claims 4-5 and 9-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The rejected claims have been canceled.

Claim 1 was rejected as anticipated by an earlier patent to Skinner. The rejection emphasized the claim language “adapted to” in explaining the operation of Skinner vis a vis the claims. And paragraph 2 of the most recent Office action, “Claim Suggestions,” indicates that substituting the phrase “configured to” would serve “to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art.” Claim 1 has been amended to that end, and thus distinguishes over the Skinner reference as indicated by the Examiner.

In addition, claim 1 has further been amended to clarify that a single handwriting recognition area is required that is capable of recognizing input characters belonging to different reference libraries, each associated with a different activatable control. Such an arrangement is not taught or suggested by Skinner which has separate handwriting input areas for different character sets, letters or numerals. Compare 106a and 106b in Figure 2.

Claims 2, 3, 6 and 7 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for the same reasons. The other claim rejections set forth in the latest Office action relate to canceled claims and need not be addressed further. Reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant hereby requests a one month extension of time in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.136. Please charge deposit account 19-4972 for the amount of \$120.00 for the fee for the one month extension of time. Applicant believes that no further extension of time is required; however, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that the applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a further additional extension of time. If any additional fees are required for the timely consideration of the application, please charge deposit account number 19-4972.

Respectfully submitted,



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